











### AROUND THE UNION



# Lake Union Executive Committee Spring Meetings Wrap Up

On Wednesday, May 3, the Lake Union executive committee convened in Berrien Springs, Michigan for the second of three meetings held annually.

The 37-member committee includes representatives from the five conferences who are tasked with helping to develop and direct the work of the church in the Great Lakes region. Members include local conference administrators, church employees, lay leaders, as well as the presidents of Andrews University and AdventHealth Great Lakes.

As president of the Lake Union, Ken Denslow chairs the meeting, which is focused on the day-to-day work, as well as the long-term strategies for fulfilling the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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# **Countdown to Academy Graduations Have Begun**

With caps and gowns on, 173 Lake Union academy graduates are expected to say goodbye to high school and hello to what lies ahead for their future.

The Lake Union congratulates all the graduates on completing this phase of their educational journey. "We wish them the very best as they advance to the next phase as steady, shining beacons of hope in their homes, colleges, workplaces and communities," says Ruth Horton, Lake Union Education director.

Graduations ceremonies at the seven academies will be held on either Sunday, May 21 or May 28.

Read the details on when, where and how to watch the pomp and circumstance.

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# Fervent Prayers Leads Congregation to Exceptional Experience With God

It all started several years ago when two prayer warriors made a decision. They covenanted with God to come to church 30 minutes early every Sabbath to plead with God for more members. The Watertown Seventh-day Adventist Church was not growing as fast as they had hoped. These prayer warriors firmly believed God had a plan and they wanted to know what it was.

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# Pathfinder Ministry Sparks Search for Truth

Faith is the fulcrum of Wesly and Stephanie Luckadoo's lives. Before converting to Seventh-day Adventism, the duo was deeply involved in the Christian Reformed congregation in Holland, Michigan.

Wesly was a musician in the church's worship band, while Stephanie had her ministry of feeding hungry children in their local community. Their daughter Maleena would occasionally sing with her father during church.

It wouldn't be until Stephanie started working at Tiara Yachts—an Adventistowned boat manufacturer based in Holland—that they would hear about the Adventist Church. Through that connection, Maleena soon joined the Holland Huskies Pathfinder club as a fifth grader. This act set the family on a serious search for the truth about God.

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## **EVENTS AND RESOURCES**





#### Conectate is June 2-4, 2023

Join main speaker Pr. Arnaldo Cruz on June 2-4, 2023 for Lake Union Conference's 7th Bilingual Youth Congress, Conectate. The congress will be held at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University.

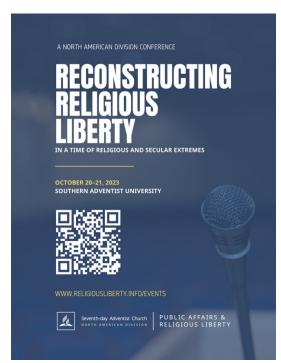
Register at conectateluc.com.

## National Camps for Blind Children a ministry of Chris

Children, a ministry of Christian Record Services is proud to partner with Timber Ridge Camp in Spencer, Indiana this summer. On **June 18-25**, the camp will provide confidence-building opportunities for individuals ages 7-65 who are blind and visually impaired as they participate in a variety of summer camp experiences. For more information about our summer camp programs visit <a href="https://www.blindcamps.org">www.blindcamps.org</a>.











What: Families & Emotional Health

Where: Virtual

**When:** July 20-22, 2023 Registration: ACFRP.org

Who should participate? Family

Ministries leaders from local churches, conferences, union conferences and divisions, other professionals who work with families, seminary students, graduate students, pastors and lay persons who have an interest in improving their own marriages and families are invited to participate.

CYE invites you to a cruise adventure to Alaska on September 3-10.

Check out the <u>itinerary</u> and <u>register</u>.

If you have any questions, please send an email to <a href="mailto:cwm@cye.org">cwm@cye.org</a>.

The NAD Public Affairs and Religious Liberty ministry invites you to "Reconstructing Religious Liberty in a Time of Religious and Secular Extremes." This two-day event will explore new ways to talk about religious freedom within a culturally and politically polarized America.

When: October 20-21, 2023 Where: Collegedale Seventh-day

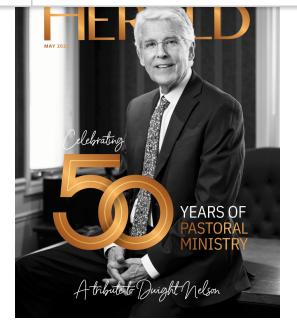
Adventist Church

For more information and to register, visit religiousliberty.info/events. Registration is now open with an Early Bird rate of just \$49.

Explore a growing collection of Adventist Resources. The Adventist Digital Library exists to help spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world through free online access to Adventist historical and contemporary resources. Visit us to discover magazines, books, photographs, and more.

**Project Safe Church exists to** train leaders to take action in response to the systemic crisis of abuse in the Seventh-day **Adventist church.** The Project involves training pastors and church leaders to create a visible reporting mechanism, as well as the ability to connect victims with trained practitioners.

Visit the <u>Project Safe Church</u> website for more information.

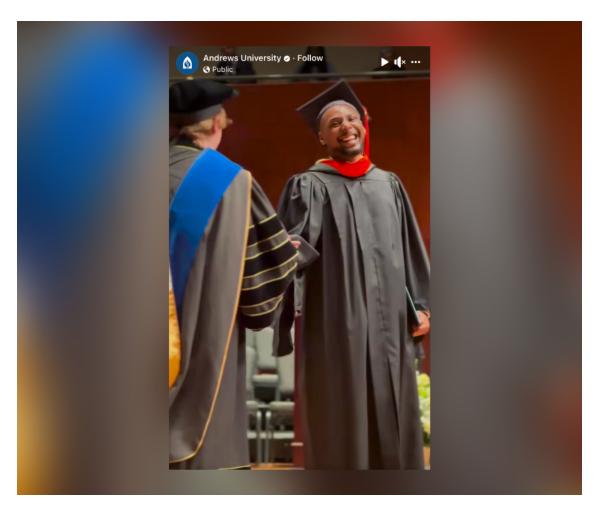


# May 2023

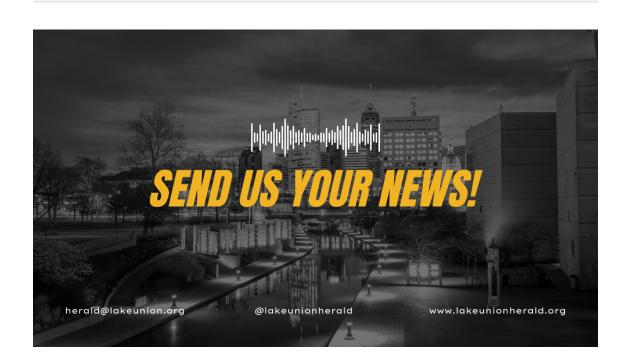
This month's issue highlights Dwight Nelson's 50 years in ministry, plus summer camps and camp meetings.

#### Read All Our Stories Online

## Video of the Week



Dr. Andrea Luxton, Andrews University president, presided over the graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 7, with fun and memorable moments with her last graduating class. Watch the video to see the smiles and laughs graduates had with Dr. Luxton.



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